CLAIMS

1/ A method of treating spontaneous and ongoing autoimmune diseases in mammals, comprising administering to a mammal, in need of such a treatment, a therapeutically effective amount of one or more non mitogenic anti-CD3 active principles to achieve permanent disease remission through the induction of antigen-specific unresponsiveness, i.e. immune tolerance.

2/ The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 active principle is a non mitogenic anti-CD3.

3/ The method of claim 1, wherein said antibody non mitogenic anti-CD3 active principle is a non mitogenic anti-CD3 $F(ab')_2$ fragment.

4/ The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 active principle is a non mitogenic anti-CD3 monoclonal antibody.

5/ The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 active principle is a non mitogenic anti-CD3 monoclonal antibody $F(ab)_2$ fragment.

6/ The method of claim 1, wherein said non mitogenic anti-CD3 active principle is highly purified, endotoxin-free.

7/ The method of claim 4 ~~or 5,~~ wherein said monoclonal antibody is selected from the group consisting of murine or humanized antibody.

8/ The method of claim 3 ~~or 5~~, wherein said $F(ab')_2$ fragment is such as obtained by pepsin digestion of the whole antibody.

9/ The method of claim 1, wherein said auto-immune disease is diabetes.

10/ The method of claim 1, wherein said auto-immune disease is rheumatoid arthritis.

11/ The method of claim 1, wherein said auto-immune disease is psoriasis.

12/ The method of claim 1, wherein said auto-immune disease is multiple sclerosis.

13/ The method of claim 1, wherein said active principle is administered by injectable route.

14/ The method of claim 13, wherein said active principle is under the form of injectable solutions, these solutions containing per unit dose from 5 to 20 mg of active principle.

15/ The method of claim 14, wherein said active principle is under the form of injectable solutions, these solutions containing per unit dose from 5 to 10 mg of active principle.